

Watershed Planning

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Watershed Improvement Steps

- Monitor
- Assess
- Plan
- Implement



Iowa Success Stories

- Nine Eagles Lake
- Slip Bluff Lake
- Lake Icaria



EPA Section 319 Program Results

- **Few Results:** EPA Section 319 Program has only 100 success stories nationwide in 18 years and \$1 billion spent
- **Findings:** success requires long term commitment, community involvement, and targeting to restore watersheds
- **Planning Requirement:** EPA 319 watershed projects now require development of 9-element watershed management plans prior to project implementation



DNR Section 319 Watershed Planning Assistance

- EPA found that most 2008 319 projects did not meet 9-element plan requirement
- A Plan:
 - Should describe actions needed to remove impairment or restore the water body to meet its designated use
 - May require 10-15 years of activities
 - May require 3 or more project phases to complete the plan



3 Steps to Watershed Management Plans:

- 1) Now: DNR 319/RBCs helping 08 applicants develop 9-element watershed management plans (WMPs)
- 2) Summer 2009: DNR 319/RBCs will help 09 applicants selected for 319 grants develop WMPs
- 3) Fall 2009: DNR 319 to initiate new planning grant program



DNR Planning Grant

- \$50,000 maximum grant award
- \$200,000 annually for program
- Duration: 12-24 months
- Eligible to SWCDs, CCBs, RC & Ds, local watershed groups
- Requires local match
- May hire consultants to help develop plan
- Goal: Completed Plan for Project Implementation Grants



Project Funding Options based on Completed Plans:

- DNR Section 319: \$ 2 million
- DSC WPF/WSPF: \$ 2 million
- WIRB: \$ 5 million
- Private Grants
- Other Funding: EQIP, DNR Lakes Restoration, DNR River Restoration



EPA Watershed Planning Handbook

- Handbook for Developing Watershed Plans to Restore and Protect Our Waters
- http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/watershed_handbook.



DNR Watershed Planning Guidebook

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Iowa Watershed Management Plans

- Lake Rathbun
- Carter Lake
- Iowa Great Lakes



DNR Water Monitoring Assistance

- Spring 09: DNR 319 to begin funding water monitoring for approved DSC development grants on a case-by-case basis
- DNR may contract for monitoring with SWCD or other approved entity
- Requires DNR-approved water monitoring QAPP
- Goal: Better WQ Data for Watersheds



Goal: Water Quality Success

- Landowners help improve our water
 - Practices
 - Leadership
- Kremer family
 - Farmers Creek
 - Ponds



clean water
starts with you.
IOWA DNR WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT